

County of Los Angeles **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012 (213) 974-1101 http://ceo.lacounty.gov

> Board of Supervisors HILDA L. SOLIS First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS Second District

SHEILA KUEHL Third District

DON KNABE Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH Fifth District

To:

March 24, 2016

Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, Chair

Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

Supervisor Sheila Kuehl Supervisor Don Knabe

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From:

Sachi A. Hamai

Chief Executive Officer

STATUS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROPOSITION 47 TASKFORCES (ITEM 3, AGENDA OF DECEMBER 1, 2015)

On December 1, 2015, the Board instructed: 1) the Public Defender (PD) and Chief Executive Office (CEO) to convene a Proposition 47 Taskforce (Taskforce 1) responsible for identifying, contacting, and providing legal relief to individuals eligible to have certain felony convictions reduced to a misdemeanor; 2) the CEO and the Interim Director of the Office of Diversion and Re-entry (OD&R) to convene a Prop 47 Jobs and Services Taskforce (Taskforce 2) responsible for developing public-private partnerships to provide access to workforce development, employment opportunities, and wraparound services such as housing, healthcare, mental health treatment, and substance use disorder treatment; 3) the CEO to seek legislative changes to extend or eliminate the deadline for individuals to apply for Prop 47 legal relief; and 4) to provide a 90 day report back on implementation strategies.

STATUS SUMMARY

Prop 47 reflects a shift in the criminal justice system away from punitive incarceration and toward rehabilitative diversion programs and community based support services that help individuals successfully reintegrate into society. This report is focused on the legal relief and support services for individuals who have completed their sentence (out-of-custody) for a felony conviction that is eligible for reduction to a misdemeanor.

Taskforce 1 led by the PD and Taskforce 2 led by Community and Senior Services (CSS) have been working closely to ensure the outreach campaign and both public and private service providers are coordinated. Multiple meetings with County partners and community stakeholders have been convened to develop strategies to identify and contact eligible individuals, provide legal relief, and connect them with community support services and employment opportunities. Several workgroups were subsequently established to focus on each aspect of the Board

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

Each Supervisor March 24, 2016 Page 2

motion. The following identifies the workgroups and summarizes the progress to date and proposed coordinated implementation plan:

<u>Taskforce 1</u> (Lead: Public Defender)

- Database Workgroup: Approximately 819,000 potentially eligible cases have been identified through the development of a consolidated Prop 47 database. The database will be the foundation of the Prop 47 outreach, services, and employment efforts.
- Outreach Workgroup: The outreach campaign being developed includes direct mailers and broader mass media marketing to maximize community awareness. The marketing rollout schedule will be coordinated with recommendations to increase the resources needed to respond to inquiries generated by the campaign.
- Legal Services: The PD and Alternate Public Defender (APD) have successfully provided, within existing resources, legal relief to 25,700 clients to date. The proposed outreach campaign will further increase the demand on the PD, APD, and District Attorney (DA) staff.

<u>Taskforce 2</u> (Lead: Community and Senior Services)

- Community Partnership Workgroup: CSS has taken a lead role in developing the public-private partnerships for community based support services and employment opportunities. Several programs are being developed.
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Workgroup: CSS and the Chief Information Office (CIO), in collaboration with several departments, is developing a GIS map of Prop 47 clients and existing public and private service providers to help facilitate an informed decision on where additional resources need to be deployed.

Budget and Legislation (Lead: Chief Executive Office)

- Prop 47 does not provide funding for the due diligence required by both defense and prosecution to process petitions (in-custody) and applications (out-of-custody) for legal relief nor the outreach to raise awareness in the community. A budget recommendation is being developed and will be submitted to the Board for consideration within 30 days.
- The CEO's Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations Division has successfully introduced County-sponsored AB 2765 (Weber) which, if enacted, would eliminate the November 2017 deadline to file an application to reduce a Prop 47 eligible felony conviction to a misdemeanor.

The underlying objective of this project is to establish a collaborative public-private effort to successfully reintegrate justice-involved individuals back into society. Therefore, individuals seeking Prop 47 legal relief will be connected to public and private social services that can provide stabilization of their living situation, rehabilitative supportive services (mental health treatment, substance use disorder treatment, wrap-around services, etc.), pre-employment

Each Supervisor March 24, 2016 Page 3

training, and employment opportunities. Attachment 1 provides details on the efforts of the Taskforces.

NEXT STEPS

Our Office will continue to work with both Taskforces and each of the Workgroups. Progress in each of the areas highlighted in this report will be updated each quarter.

We will also return within 30 days with a Board Letter containing budget recommendations for the outreach campaign, database and GIS projects, and staffing. The Board letter will also include a detailed outreach implementation plan to support the funding requested.

If you have any questions, please contact Sheila Williams at (213) 974-1155, or David Turla at (213) 458-6357 or at dturla@ceo.lacounty.gov.

SAH:JJ:SW DT:cg

Attachment

C: District Attorney

Sheriff

Executive Office, Board of Supervisors

County Counsel

Alternate Public Defender Chief Information Office

Community and Senior Services Information Systems Advisory Body

Internal Services

Office of Diversion and Re-entry

Public Defender

Q:\Board Memos\03.24.16 Prop 47 Status Report.Docx

BACKGROUND

PROP 47 OVERVIEW AND DEFINING ELIGIBLE CLIENTS

Approved by voters on November 4, 2014, Prop 47, also known as the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act, reduced certain drug and property crimes from a felony to a misdemeanor¹. Therefore, anyone arrested today on a Prop 47 offense who does not have a disqualifying prior conviction would be considered a misdemeanor offender. This report is focused on providing legal relief to individuals who are out-of-custody and whose criminal record contains a Prop 47 felony conviction(s) that is eligible for reduction to a misdemeanor with no other disqualifying felony convictions (specified serious, violent, sexual felony convictions).

For the remainder of this report, individuals eligible for Prop 47 legal relief will be referred to as eligible clients since they will be recipients of the corresponding legal, support, and employment services. Prop 47 is fully retroactive which means the eligible population includes clients whose felony convictions go back to the 1980s or earlier. Another point of clarification is eligible clients are only those who were convicted in Los Angeles County. Current residents whose criminal record includes a Prop 47 eligible felony in another county will be referred to the public defender of that jurisdiction.

A felony conviction has major consequences for an individual, such as being subject to search and seizure as a court mandated condition of probation or parole. In addition, a felony record precludes employment in certain fields, professional licensing, service in the armed forces, access to federal health care programs, housing opportunities, voting rights, serving on a jury, etc. Interestingly, individuals with a felony record may be eligible for General Relief, General Relief Opportunity for Work, CalFresh, and Medi-Cal.

The legal relief provided under Prop 47 may remove significant barriers to successful re-entry back into society. However, access to the aforementioned opportunities is subject to an individual's entire criminal record which means other non-Prop 47 felony convictions may continue to adversely affect an individual despite having received Prop 47 legal relief.

TASKFORCE 1: IDENTIFY, OUTREACH, AND LEGAL RELIEF

DATABASE WORKGROUP

The PD, ClO, and Information Systems Advisory Body (ISAB) are collaborating with the other County justice departments to develop a consolidated Prop 47 database that identifies potential eligible clients and includes the following data fields:

- Charge
- Date of conviction
- · Last known address
- Legal agency/representative

¹ The CEO's February 27, 2015 "Preliminary Assessment of Proposition 47 Implementation, Reclassification of Certain Felonies to Misdemeanors" report provides an overview of the change in law.

Caution should be taken with respect to the accuracy of the Prop 47 database because the data sources are from several legacy systems which have conflicting and inconsistent data definitions. Limitations of the data include the quality of the data capture, availability of sufficient data, and duplications. The Database Workgroup is continuing to validate and refine the Prop 47 database. They are also working to reconcile the Prop 47 database with Superior Courts' report that approximately 47,200 filings for legal relief have been submitted between November 2014 and February 2016.

Based on the Database Workgroup's efforts to date, approximately 819,000 cases have been identified that may potentially be eligible for Prop 47 legal relief, see Table 1. It should be noted that an eligible client may have multiple Prop 47 cases.

Table 1: Estimated Population of Prop 47 Eligible Cases

Defense Representative	
	(as of 3/15/16)
Public Defender	565,000
Alternate Public Defender	82,000
Privately Retained Counsel	115,000
Court Appointed Counsel	49,000
Pro Per	8,000
Total	819,000

The number of potential cases reflects the fully retroactive nature of Prop 47 with this estimate including records that go back several decades. It is also important to highlight that actual eligibility can only be determined after a thorough review of an individual's criminal record and the legal aspects of each case. For example, the Prop 47 database may identify eligibility, but a review of the criminal record may include other disqualifying felony convictions or the circumstances of the case do not meet Prop 47 criteria (e.g. the theft exceeded the \$950 threshold).

OUTREACH WORKGROUP

The outreach workgroup has two primary tasks: locate eligible clients and develop an outreach campaign.

Locate Eligible Clients

The ideal outreach scenario is to directly contact each eligible client. The Prop 47 database generally contains the last known address; however, the contact information may be inaccurate due to the client either having moved (especially in cases that are decades old), are transient or homeless, or deceased. As such, the accuracy of the contact information diminishes over time. Table 2 provides an approximation of potential eligible clients by Supervisorial District based on the last known address.

TABLE 2: Estimated Distribution of Eligible Clients

Supervisorial District	
1 st District	20%
2 nd District	35%
3 rd District	14%
4 th District	17%
5 th District	14%

The first attempt to update potential eligible client's last known address was to look internally. Assuming eligible clients may have recently accessed County services, meetings were convened to discuss various potential options of sharing contact information between County departments, including the public safety departments, Department of Health Services, Department of Mental Health, Department of Public Health, Department of Social Services (DPSS), Department of Children and Family Services, CSS, and the Registrar-Recorder.

County Counsel has advised that health and human services records, including client identity, are protected by both State and federal laws which may impose civil and criminal penalties for violations. In most instances, a client's specific written authorization must first be obtained by the County department prior to making a disclosure of a client's personally identifying information, or the content of the client's County service record. Further, in some instances and for some types of records, written authorization is not enough; a court order authorizing release is needed for each individual. There are very limited instances where personally identifying client information may be disclosed without the client's authorization. However, unauthorized disclosure of a client's personally identifiable information to the PD or APD for purposes of attempting Prop 47 eligibility notification, does not come within statutory exceptions to these confidentiality laws.

In light of these privacy restrictions, the PD is proposing to engage a commercial people locator service to obtain the last best known address for the Prop 47 database.

Outreach Campaign

Although Prop 47 was passed by voters in November 2014, the level of awareness in the community and among eligible clients is unknown. A large proportion of cases are old and eligible clients have since moved on living with a felony record. Others are transient or homeless with little contact with the media, which provided limited coverage of Prop 47. The outreach that has been performed have been limited to pilot programs for mailers to eligible clients by the PD and APD, events co-hosted by community advocates, and the general work that advocates and providers do in the community.

Given the pending sunset date of November 2017 to file for legal relief, Taskforce 1 is developing a multi-prong outreach campaign to raise awareness of the available Prop 47 legal relief and corresponding support services, as described below in priority order:

1. **Direct Mailings**: Since the passage of Prop 47, the PD and APD have been directly mailing letters/notices to eligible clients. With this Board directive, they are looking to significantly increase the volume of direct mailers with the assistance of a commercial people locator

service. In addition, and keeping in mind the aforementioned privacy restrictions, the PD and CSS are working with County Counsel and the Department of Public Social Services to determine the feasibility of including generic Prop 47 informational material in their regular correspondence (e.g. benefit statements) to clients.

Central to this direct mailing effort will be the development of a mailing schedule that balances their legal resource capacity to the potential volume of responses from eligible clients, discussed further in the *Capacity of Legal Resources* section.

2. **211 County Portal and Call Center**: The CEO is working with 211 LA County (211) to amend the existing agreement to add Prop 47 call center services and to host an online Prop 47 portal. 211 will be integral in the success of the outreach campaign because all marketing materials will direct inquiries to the 211 call center or portal.

The 211 service operators and online portal will provide individuals with a general overview of Prop 47 and references/links to the legal, rehabilitative, and community support services available. 211 service operators will direct callers not to disclose any criminal history because that information should only be discussed between the individual and their legal representative. The CEO is also looking at engaging 211 for Prop 47 case management services for those eligible clients who call with complicated service needs and require assistance navigating through the system.

- 3. **Public Transit**: Advertising on public transit provides broad exposure and potentially reaches a significant number of clients who are either public transportation passengers (interior advertisements) or through street-viewership (exterior advertisements). The PD is working with the Los Angeles Department of Transportation and Metropolitan Transit Authority to identify prospective routes throughout the County.
- 4. **In-Office Ads**: Considering eligible clients may be utilizing other County services, Taskforce 1 has designed simple low cost advertisements that include posters, countertop stands, and business cards. These advertisements could easily be distributed to County department's public service offices and to community providers.
- 5. Events and Legal Clinics: Taskforce 1 will continue to co-host and/or participate in two to three community outreach events per month, including major community and holiday events, such as the Taste of Soul, Martin Luther King Day, and Cesar Chavez Day. Onsite services include Prop 47 education, initiating petitions for eligible clients, and linking them to other County services and community based providers.
- 6. Online Social Media: Online advertising is an integral part of any outreach campaign given today's tech-centric culture. Regardless of age and economic status, most people engage in online communication and activity either through home computers, laptops, smartphones, or even library computers. Taskforce 1 is working with Google and Facebook to develop effective strategies and advertising algorithms that post webpage advertisements when someone triggers Prop 47 relevant key words or submits general online inquiries related to criminal justice. Following a one month lead time, the social media campaign would run from August 2016 through November 2017.
- 7. **Mobile Outreach Teams**: Based on experience, the PD anticipates a significant number of eligible clients to be homeless. The PD is working with the countywide Homeless Initiative to possibly partner with the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority's field team to go into

the community and provide direct services to eligible clients. The PD deems this effort is vitally important because this population of eligible clients are the least likely to be aware of Prop 47 and contact the County for assistance.

Our Office is reviewing the budget proposals for the outreach campaign and anticipate a Board Letter will be submitted within 30 days containing budget recommendations and additional details of the outreach campaign, including schedules, maps, and examples of the advertisements.

LEGAL SERVICES

Unless a potential eligible client was represented by APD or the Indigent Criminal Defense Appointments (ICDA) panel, the PD is the default legal representative to assist individuals seeking Prop 47 legal relief. This includes the approximately 15 percent of eligible cases the Prop 47 database identified as either represented by private counsel or pro per (self-representation). Representation for these individuals is problematic because the PD does not have access to their case files.

The legal service provided by the PD and APD include reviewing a potential eligible client's criminal record, researching the case, determining eligibility, filing petitions or applications, and appearing at hearings. Likewise, the DA reviews all petitions and applications filed with the Superior Court for eligibility regardless of the source of defense representation, files responses to those petitions and applications, determines whether or not to contest the petitions or applications, and litigates contested petitions or applications at court hearings. The DA must also contact affected victims to provide notice and an opportunity to be heard with respect to resentencing under Prop 47.

Current Legal Relief Activity

Upon the passage of Prop 47, the PD and APD's immediate priority was to provide legal relief to clients who were incarcerated and then to those who were on felony probation or parole. The departments are now primarily handling client-initiated requests for out-of-custody reductions and cases where clients are arrested on Prop 47 related bench warrants. The PD and APD have not initiated any automated petition or application filings which, given the volume, has the potential of overwhelming the justice system's capacity with unvetted cases, as has occurred in another jurisdiction. Table 3 reflects the PD and APD's legal relief efforts since November 2014. As previously noted, the Database Workgroup is reconciling records with the Superior Court.

TABLE 3: Prop 47 Legal Relief Statistics

Law Firm		
Public Defender		
Alternate Public Defender		
TOTAL		

Cases Reviewed	Ineligible	
36,500	13,100	
14,600	9,100	
51,100	22,200	

Petitions & Applications (as of 2/15/16)					
Granted	Denied	Pending	TOTAL FILINGS		
21,000	1,600	800	23,400		
4,700	200	600	5,500		
25,700	1,800	1,400	28,900		

As previously noted, the PD and APD have been partnering with Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County, Californians for Safety and Justice, and many other agencies to co-host Prop 47 education and legal aide tables at community events.

Capacity of Legal Resources

Prop 47 does not provide funding to support the legal representation and prosecutorial review required to process the legal relief through the courts. The due diligence required can be a time intensive manual process of reviewing case files, some dating back decades. The DA, PD, and APD have been redirecting existing resources (attorneys, paralegals, and other staff) to manage the additional Prop 47 caseload they have absorbed during the past 16 months.

The Prop 47 outreach campaign is unprecedented and the response rate and corresponding caseload is unknown. For example, the PD conducted a small direct mailing pilot that resulted in an approximately 20-25% response rate. In contrast, the APD conducted a more extensive direct mailing which produced a 1.3% response rate after distributing 4,700 mailers to clients whose case was heard in the last three years. Other inquiries have come to the PD and APD from a wide spectrum of individuals with a felony record, including: actual eligible clients, those who are not eligible because of their criminal history, and those who may be eligible for other legal relief such as expungement. Under each circumstance, staff time is needed to respond and research eligibility.

Taskforce 1 anticipates the outreach campaign will generate increased inquiries that will eclipse the department's current capacity. The following steps have been taken to accommodate these inquiries and potential eligible client workload:

- The 211 call center and Prop 47 portal will be on the frontline to manage the inquiries, provide an overview of Prop 47 eligibility, and direct potential eligible clients to the corresponding legal, social, and support resources.
- The PD will be expanding its summer law clerk program. The additional law clerks will spend at least half of their time working on Prop 47.
- Local law schools have been contacted to see if their student clinical and adjunct programs possess the capacity to assist eligible clients with the Prop 47 petition and application process. Some community based organizations are already working with college and law students through clinical and adjunct programs. Inquiry in this area is ongoing.
- The PD is also in the process of contacting law firms in the Los Angeles area for the purpose of determining whether, through their pro bono programs, there is any interest in providing attorneys and/or summer associates to work with individuals eligible for Prop 47 relief.

As previously noted, several legal aid groups are already working with eligible clients in the community. Generally, these groups analyze eligibility and assist clients in completing Prop 47 paperwork.

The DA and PD have submitted budget requests for additional staff which is discussed later in the budget section. The APD will be submitting a budget request after the extent of the County's outreach efforts has been determined.

TASKFORCE 2: JOBS AND SERVICES

The OD&R is working with all of the Health Agency departments to compile a list of available services by geographic location within the County. The OD&R has partnered with other County departments to participate in several grants and inaugural programs that are designed to help the justice-involved population, including Prop 47 eligible clients, to enroll for Medi-caid/Cal benefits and develop a comprehensive network of resources and programs to meet their medical, mental health, and substance use treatment needs. On March 14, 2016, a separate OD&R report was submitted to the Board detailing the housing, healthcare, mental health treatment, substance use disorder treatment, and wraparound services that are being developed in the community.

With respect to the jobs component of Taskforce 2, the remainder of this section highlights the efforts initiated by CSS:

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP WORKGROUP

The Community Partnership Workgroup (CPW) was initially started by CSS to build the Taskforce 2 public-private partnerships. However, as a result of the close collaboration between CSS and the PD and the integration needed between legal assistance and support services, the scope of this workgroup now encompasses both Taskforces.

CPW Kick-off Meeting

On February 9, 2016, the PD, Californians for Safety and Justice, and Neighborhood Legal Services Los Angeles, co-hosted a Prop 47 community partnership meeting at the offices of CSS in East Los Angeles. Participating stakeholders included representatives from various County departments, community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, legal aide service providers, Los Angeles City representatives, and representatives from advocacy groups. Participants were invited to consider their unique roles and how they can contribute to the Prop 47 outreach campaign, legal aide, and support services. This kick-off meeting has improved public-private communications and continued the process of identifying existing public and private resources available to assist eligible clients, detecting unmet needs and challenges, and initiating the relationships, networks and steps for building an effective infrastructure for re-entry and support services.

Second Chance Community-Based Support Services and Employment Opportunities

CSS has been developing the countywide public-private partnerships to support the re-entry population, not just the Prop 47 eligible clients. CSS has been collaborating with the OD&R, other County departments, community-based organizations, and other private and public partners to develop a comprehensive Second Chance Workforce Development Program (Second Chance) to expand capacity and expertise to support the re-entry population, including:

- Coordination of services for mental health and substance use treatment services, housing, wrap-around services, family reunification, and education.
- Implementation of workforce development service strategies that incorporate sustainable interagency coordination, streamlined service delivery and the expansion of Second Chance employment and training opportunities.

In addition to reducing recidivism, the objective of Second Chance is to provide individuals with a comprehensive support network to become independent and eventually reduce their reliance on entitlement and safety-net programs. CSS, in coordination with other County departments and community agencies that work with this population, are implementing the following:

- Jail-Based Job Centers: In partnership with the Sheriff's Department, the Quality and Productivity Commission and other County departments, a Jail-Based Job Center will be established at the Pitchess Detention Center to provide a bridge for individuals released from the jail into the County's Workforce Development System. Similar plans are underway to seek funding to establish a women's job center at the Sheriff's Century Regional Detention Facility in Lynwood.
- System Navigators: CSS secured an \$800,000 grant from the Board of State and Community Corrections to establish a dedicated team of navigators to assist the re-entry population with employment services. The navigators will provide hands-on intensive soft skill job preparation, enhanced social skill development, peer support, and system navigation to the County's America's Job Centers of California (AJCC) system. Each AJCC will ensure specialized career planning, job training, job development, employment placement, on-the-job training and job coach supports.
- Offender Workforce Development Program: In partnership with Probation and the National Institute of Corrections (NIC), probationers will be enrolled in an NIC designed evidence-based multidisciplinary rehabilitation and job attainment program utilizing local/regional workforce resources. The program includes education and skill development, retention strategies, system navigation, intervention and the creation of a rehabilitation and career attainment support team that includes the probation officer.
- Connections with Businesses: CSS has a team of staff developing and implementing a
 multi-layered business services strategy with over 1,700 employers to educate and create
 interest in hiring Second Chance participants. In addition, CSS is building a coalition of
 Second Chance Business Champions that can help promote and create opportunities
 through business to business engagement and to work with CSS to identify and develop
 ongoing strategies that create bridge and permanent career pathways for the re-entry
 population.
- Social Enterprises Businesses: CSS is working with the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs to identify and work with social enterprise businesses. These businesses have traditionally hired under-served populations, including individuals with a criminal record. To support these companies and expand the capacity of burgeoning social enterprises, CSS will increase the number of on the job training and other workforce development efforts that support the expansion of social enterprise businesses in the County.
- Employer Incentive Programs: CSS plans to coordinate business workshops to educate employers on Work Opportunity Tax Credits (WOTC) and the EDD Fidelity Bonding Program. The WOTC provides tax incentives to employers that hire ex-offenders and other target populations. The Fidelity Bonding Program provides no cost bonds to employers to protect them against possible theft, dishonesty, or fraudulent acts to alleviate employers' concerns about hiring ex-offenders and at-risk job applicants.
- Leverage Training: CSS is working with its network of educational institutions, including community colleges, adult schools and other eligible training providers, to design training

programs that not only meet the needs of employers, but are also appropriate for the reentry population. To the extent possible, CSS intends to leverage funding from Pell Grants and other State and federal grants that are available to support the training needs of low income individuals.

- **Job and Hiring Events**: CSS will organize job and hiring events geared towards the re-entry population, including eligible clients. These events will target employers and re-entry populations in the Antelope Valley, Santa Clarita, San Gabriel Valley, Central Los Angeles, South Bay, West Los Angeles and Gateway Cities.
- Special Outreach to Youth and Individuals Receiving Public Assistance: CSS is
 working with DPSS and the PD to identify eligible clients who are receiving General Relief
 and link them to employment opportunities, training, and services. In addition, in partnership
 with Probation, CSS is developing strategies for youth in the juvenile halls and camps with
 opportunities to participate in the summer employment program and be enrolled in the
 County's workforce programs.
- Collaboration and Partnerships: CSS will be working closely with public agencies, community and faith-based organizations that work with the re-entry population to ensure successful reintegration, build systematic support, and facilitate information sharing and coordination between agencies. Community partners include the Los Angeles Regional Re-entry Partnership (also known as LARRP) which is a network of community-based organizations working to assist previously incarcerated men and women reintegrate back into their communities.

Another example of collaboration and partnership is with the Volunteers of America, Greater Los Angeles' Re-Entry Career Pathways Collaborative (VOALA). VOALA is a Skid Row based initiative serving the re-entry population with employment, education, training, and other wrap-around services. VOALA is funded with the Training to Work 2 – Adult Re-entry Grant from the Department of Labor and is comprised of organizations with significant expertise and success transitioning long-term incarcerated individuals into sustainable employment. Partners include A New Way of Life Re-entry Project, Community Education Centers, Behavioral Systems Southwest - Hollywood Re-Entry Parolee Service Center, U.S. District Court Probation Office, Federal Department of Corrections, Marvin Gardens, Orion, Five Keys Charter, Working Wardrobes, PV Jobs, and the Inner-City Law Center.

In addition to the ten strategies outlined above, CSS is working in partnership with other County departments to address the need for an online tracking and referral system for all eligible clients.

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS WORKGROUP

CSS has established a Prop 47 GIS Workgroup to map the locations of eligible clients and existing public and private service providers for the purpose of facilitating a needs-resource assessment. This will be a powerful tool for informed decision making. The OD&R can use the gap analysis to recommend how new resources can be deployed, including mental health, medical, substance use treatment, housing, support services, veterans affairs services, employment, etc.

BUDGET & LEGISLATION

STAFFING

Our Office is currently reviewing requests from the departments for additional budgeted positions, primarily paralegal staff. A budget strategy is being developed to provide departments with staffing flexibility that is responsive to the caseload volume. One option is to incrementally add staff as the outreach campaign scales up; however, each incremental increase would be subject to the caseload volume generated to date.

MARKETING AND CALL CENTER

Our Office is also reviewing budgets for the outreach campaign. The majority of these projects involve print and electronic media marketing costs. The 211 call center will require a statement of work, negotiations, and a contract.

FUNDING SOURCES

Pursuant to the Prop 47 statute, funding will be made available in Spring 2017. However, those funds are restricted to grants to community-based service providers for support services (65%), truancy prevention (25%), and victims assistance programs (10%). To mitigate net County cost, our office is researching alternative funding sources for Prop 47, including:

- OD&R Funds: The OD&R has been requested to consider funding the one-time marketing costs.
- Information Technology Fund: The CIO has been requested to support the Prop 47 database and GIS project.
- AB 109 Local Innovation Funds: Commencing in FY 2016-17, AB109 requires counties to annually redirect ten percent of the four existing AB 109 funds to establish a Local Innovation Subaccount (Innovation Fund). The Board determines the expenditure priorities of the Innovation Fund which must be within the scope of AB 109's anti-recidivism objectives. The annual funding level for the Innovation Fund is subject to the prior-year revenues. Therefore, the amount of funding will not be known until after September 2016. Upon availability, our Office will consider Prop 47 programs in developing the Innovation Fund budget recommendations which should coincide with AB 109's October through September budget cycle.
- AB 109 Revocation Funds: Considering eligible clients are a sub-population of AB109's non-serious, non-violent, non-sex offender population, County Counsel was requested to evaluate whether the DA, PD, and APD legal costs for Prop 47 are eligible for funding with AB 109 Revocation Funds. Unfortunately, those funds are specifically restricted to AB 109 court revocation proceedings. The Board may consider seeking a legislative change to permit use of AB 109 Revocation Funds for Prop 47 legal relief services.
- Commission of State Mandates: County Counsel has advised that the additional workload created by Prop 47 for the PD, APD, and DA does not constitute "costs mandated by the State;" thereby, these expenses are ineligible for reimbursement from the Commission on State Mandates.

LEGISLATION (PROP 47 SUNSET PROVISION)

Assembly Member Shirley Weber (79th District – San Diego) has introduced County-sponsored AB 2765 which, on February 19, 2016, which would eliminate the November 2017 deadline to file an application to reduce a Prop 47 eligible felony conviction to a misdemeanor. As provided by Prop 47, any amendments to the Act which further its intent must be passed by a two-thirds vote from each house of the Legislature and signed by the Governor. AB 2765 is currently pending hearing in the Assembly Public Safety Committee.

The County is co-sponsoring this measure with Californians for Safety and Justice, the sponsors of Prop 47, and San Diego District Attorney, Bonnie M. Dumanis.